

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 07195 281222Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----062021 281225Z /11
O R 281212Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7832
INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07195

EXDIS

MILITARY ADDRESSEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, PROG, US, VN
SUBJ: US/VN RELATIONS: PHAN HIEN ORAL MESSAGE TO
ASST. SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

REF: A) STATE 031690 B) PARIS 03644

1. SRV LIAISON OFFICER DO THANH CAME TO THE
EMBASSY AT 1100 FEBRUARY 28 TO DELIVER AN
UNDATED ORAL MESSAGE FROM SRV VICE MINISTER
PHAN HIEN. THE FOLLOWING IS OUR ENGLISH
VERSION OF THE FRENCH TRANSLATION DO THANH
MADE FROM THE VIETNAMESE ORIGINAL:

"I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR FEBRUARY 6, 1978
MESSAGE. IN THIS MESSAGE YOU SAID THAT YOUR
GOVERNMENT IS IN POSSESSION OF CONCRETE
PROOFS THAT AMBASSADOR THI WAS PERSONALLY
ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. THIS SHOWS
THAT THE US IS NOT TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION
THE ENERGETIC PROTEST OF VIETNAM, CONTINUES TO
SLANDER VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS, AND CONTINUES
TO ABUSE THE SRV, WHICH IS CONTRARY TO THAT
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WHICH YOU SAID ABOUT YOUR DESIRE TO ASSURE
THAT THIS AFFAIR WILL NOT RESULT IN FURTHER
DAMAGE TO THE NORMALIZATION PROCESS.

"WE REAFFIRM AGAIN THAT AMBASSADOR DINH
BA THI, AS WELL AS THE OTHER PERSONS OF THE
VIETNAMESE PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UN, ARE

NOT ENGAGED IN ANY ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AS
MENTIONED BY THE US. WE PROTEST ENERGETICALLY
AND REQUEST THE USG TO CEASE THESE
SLANDEROUS ACTIVITIES.

"VIETNAM HAS MANY TIMES SHOWN ITS GOODWILL
AND HAS PUT A GREAT DEAL OF EFFORT INTO PROMOTING THE
NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE US. THE
CURRENT OBSTACLES ON THE ROAD TO NORMALIZATION
ARE CREATED BY THE US. IN THE PRESENT SITUATION,
WE CANNOT YET SEND EXPERTS TO VISIT THE CENTRAL
IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY IN HONOLULU DURING
THE FIRST TRIMESTER OF THE YEAR 1978 AS WAS AGREED
UPON DURING THE FOURTH ROUND OF THE PARIS TALKS IN
DECEMBER 1977."

2. AS DO THANH COMMENTED ON THE TELEPHONE
FEBRUARY 27, THERE WAS NOTHING VERY NEW IN
THE MESSAGE. HE THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS JUST
AN INTERIM MESSAGE DESIGNED TO KEEP UP THE
CONTACT WHILE THE SRV WORKS OUT A MORE FORMAL
WRITTEN RESPONSE TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY
HOLBROOKE'S LETTER (REF A).
GAMMON

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